

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas, characterised by groups fixed to the surface, wherein the groups are dimethylsilyl and/or monomethylsilyl, said silicas having a tamped density of 280 g/l or less.

2. (Original) Silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas according to claim 1, characterised by the following physico-chemical characteristics:

BET surface area m <sup>2</sup> /g:	25 - 400
Average size of the primary particles nm:	5 - 50
pH value:	3 - 10
Carbon content %:	0.1 - 10
DBP value %:	< 200

3. (Original) Process for the production of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to claim 1, characterised in that pyrogenically produced silica is treated by a known method with dimethyldichlorosilane and/or monomethyltrichlorosilane, the groups dimethylsilyl and/or monomethylsilyl being fixed on the surface of the pyrogenic silica, and is then structurally modified and optionally post-ground.

4. (Original) Process for the production of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to claim 3, characterised in that a tempering takes place after the structural modification and/or post-grinding.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica to improve the scratch resistance of lacquers.~~ A method for improving the scratch

resistance of lacquers comprising incorporating into the lacquer the silanized, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas defined in claim 1.

6. (Currently Amended) A silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica having groups fixed to the surface wherein said groups comprise at least one of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl and wherein said silica has a tamped density of 280 g/l or less.

7. (Previously Presented) The silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to Claim 6 having the following physical chemical properties:

BET surface area m <sup>2</sup> /g:	25 - 400
Average size of the primary particles nm:	5 - 50
pH value:	3 - 10
Carbon content %:	0.1 - 10
DBP value %:	< 200

8. (Previously Presented) The silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to claim 6, which has a tamped density of 100 to 280 g/l.

9. (Previously Presented) A process for the production of a silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica of claim 6, comprising:

treating a pyrogenically produced silica with at least one of dimethyldichlorosilane and monomethyltrichlorosilane to thereby fix groups on the surface of the pyrogenic silica, said groups being at least one of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, structurally modifying said silica and optionally post grinding said silica.

10. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 9, wherein structurally modifying is by mechanical action.

11. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 9, further comprising tempering after at least one of structurally modifying said silica and post grinding said silica.

12. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein mechanical action is by ball milling.

13. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 7, wherein post grinding is by air-jet mill or pin mill.
14. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 11, wherein tempering takes place under protective gas.
15. (Previously Presented) A lacquer comprising a polyurethane and the silanised silica according to claim 6.
16. (Previously Presented) A surface coated with the lacquer according to claim 15.
17. (Previously Presented) The surface according to claim 16, which is metal.